



Twitter Storm Reports



You can now submit your significant weather observations to the National Weather Service (NWS) via Twitter.

Thanks to the new Geotagging feature available through Twitter, individual tweets can be tagged with the location in which it was sent. This will help to enhance and increase timely & accurate online weather reporting and communications between the public and their local weather forecast offices.

How to Submit a Report:

1. Sign up for a Twitter account at Twitter.com
 2. Send report via Web or Mobile Phone using the 'hash tag' #wxreport to group your message in a specific searchable category
-
- **With** Geotagging on a 3rd party Twitter Application (i.e. not using Twitter.com, m.Twitter.com (mobile) or via text messages):
 1. Make sure Geotagging is turned on for your 3rd party application
 2. Make sure Geotagging is enabled on your Twitter account (see Twitter.com/account/settings)
 3. Submit report using the 3rd party application in the following Format

#wxreport <your significant weather>

-
- **Without** Geotagging on a 3rd party Twitter application or on Twitter.com
 1. Log on to your Twitter Account via the web or a mobile device
 2. Submit your report in the following Format

#wxreport WW <your location> WW <your significant weather>

Examples of how to code <your location>

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. A City Name:
WW <u>Winfield, KS</u> WW | 4. An Airport Identifier
WW <u>HUT</u> WW |
| 2. A zip code
WW <u>67209</u> WW | 5. A Street Intersection:
WW <u>21st St. N and Maize Rd., Wichita, KS</u> WW |
| 3. An Address
WW <u>683 W. 184th Rd. Chase, KS 67589</u> WW | 6. A Latitude and Longitude:
WW <u>38.043, -97.344</u> WW |

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/srh/twitter/twitter.php>

Twitter Storm Reports

Examples of Properly Coded Significant Weather Tweets

- **With Geotagging**

#wxreport Tornado on ground 3 miles south of my location at 5:34pm

#wxreport 3.4 inches of Rain in the past 2 hours

#wxreport Golfball sized hail at 7:54pm

- **Without Geotagging**

#wxreport WW 378 W. 156th Rd. Anthony, KS WW Wind Gusts estimated at 60mph

#wxreport WW McPherson, KS WW 4 inches of snow from 3pm-7am

#wxreport WW 67201 WW Quarter sized Hail at 5:34pm

Best Practices for Writing your Significant Storm Reports

1. Use a City, State or Zip code as the preferred method to code a non geo-tagged report.
2. While any weather can be tweeted, the NWS is most interested in Significant Weather Reports. (see below)

What Significant Weather to Report

(Report the time that the event occurred and how much or size as appropriate)

- Snowfall during an event and storm total
- Freezing Rain and Freezing Drizzle
- Dense Fog and reduced visibility
- Damage from Winds
- Hail
- Tornadoes or Funnel clouds
- Flooding

General Guidelines

- The purpose of this project is to allow people to submit reports. Please be responsible and respectful of the purpose.
- A valid Twitter user account is required to submit reports. As such, use of this service constitutes an agreement to the Terms of Service (ToS) of the provider. Go to <http://Twitter.com/tos> for more information.
- This project is in an experimental state and may not always be seen or the message may get stuck in twitter-space, don't rely on Twitter for reporting life threatening reports.
- If report is life threatening, please use Original reporting methods
- Official Representatives of the NWS will not respond to any Tweet to confirm its receipt.

Troubleshooting and Questions about Tweets

1. Be sure to put the "WW"s around <your location> in your tweet if you do not have geo-tagging on a 3rd party application. The "WW"s are used to help computer software mark your location to plot on a map
2. A 3rd party application is something you have to download separately on either your phone or Personal Computer that will send out and geo-code the Tweets
3. A hash tag is the <#wxreport> part of the tweet, and it is used to identify the tweet as a weather report and can be found and plotted on a map.
4. See Twitter Help FAQ for more information if you are new to Twitter : <http://help.twitter.com/forums/10711/entries/13920-frequently-asked-questions>